|                              | (Original Signature o | of Member) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 111TH CONGRESS<br>2D SESSION | H.R.                  |            |

To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt reimbursements of expenses related to accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss from determinations of annual income with respect to pensions for veterans and surviving spouses and children of veterans, and for other purposes.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

| Mr. H | ASTINGS of Florid | a introduced | the | following | bill; | which | was | referred | to |
|-------|-------------------|--------------|-----|-----------|-------|-------|-----|----------|----|
|       | the Commit        | tee on       |     |           |       |       |     |          |    |
|       |                   |              |     |           |       |       |     |          |    |

## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt reimbursements of expenses related to accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss from determinations of annual income with respect to pensions for veterans and surviving spouses and children of veterans, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Veterans Pensions
- 5 Protection Act of 2010".

| 1  | SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN REIMBURSEMENTS OF EX-   |
|----|--|
| 2  | PENSES FROM DETERMINATION OF ANNUAL                  |
| 3  | INCOME WITH RESPECT TO PENSIONS FOR                  |
| 4  | VETERANS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES AND                   |
| 5  | CHILDREN OF VETERANS.                                |
| 6  | Paragraph (5) of section 1503(a) of title 38, United |
| 7  | States Code, is amended to read as follows:          |
| 8  | "(5) payments regarding—                             |
| 9  | "(A) reimbursements of any kind (includ-             |
| 10 | ing insurance settlement payments) for—              |
| 11 | "(i) expenses related to the repay-                  |
| 12 | ment, replacement, or repair of equipment,           |
| 13 | vehicles, items, money, or property result-          |
| 14 | ing from—  |
| 15 | "(I) any accident (as defined in                     |
| 16 | regulations which the Secretary shall                |
| 17 | prescribe), but the amount excluded                  |
| 18 | under this subclause shall not exceed                |
| 19 | the greater of the fair market value or              |
| 20 | reasonable replacement value of the                  |
| 21 | equipment or vehicle involved at the                 |
| 22 | time immediately preceding the acci-                 |
| 23 | dent;  |
| 24 | "(II) any theft or loss (as defined                  |
| 25 | in regulations which the Secretary                   |
| 26 | shall prescribe), but the amount ex-                 |

| 1  | cluded under this subclause shall not        |
|----|--|
| 2  | exceed the greater of the fair market        |
| 3  | value or reasonable replacement value        |
| 4  | of the item or the amount of the             |
| 5  | money (including legal tender of the         |
| 6  | United States or of a foreign country)       |
| 7  | involved at the time immediately pre-        |
| 8  | ceding the theft or loss; or                 |
| 9  | "(III) any casualty loss (as de-             |
| 10 | fined in regulations which the Sec-          |
| 11 | retary shall prescribe), but the             |
| 12 | amount excluded under this subclause         |
| 13 | shall not exceed the greater of the fair     |
| 14 | market value or reasonable replace-          |
| 15 | ment value of the property involved at       |
| 16 | the time immediately preceding the           |
| 17 | casualty loss; and                           |
| 18 | "(ii) medical expenses resulting from        |
| 19 | any accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss  |
| 20 | (as defined in regulations which the Sec-    |
| 21 | retary shall prescribe), but the amount ex-  |
| 22 | cluded under this clause shall not exceed    |
| 23 | the costs of medical care provided to the    |
| 24 | victim of the accident, theft, loss, or cas- |
| 25 | ualty loss; and                              |

| I | "(B) pain and suffering (including insur-         |
|---|---|
| 2 | ance settlement payments and general damages      |
| 3 | awarded by a court) related to an accident,       |
| 4 | theft, loss, or casualty loss, but the amount ex- |
| 5 | cluded under this subparagraph shall not exceed   |
| 6 | an amount determined by the Secretary on a        |
| 7 | case-by-case basis;".                             |